breathing problems, headache, eye irritation, cough cold etc. which subsides subsequently to the withdrawal of use of repellent. According to ICMR, Central Insecticide Board (CIB) which regulates the use of insecticides, bio-larvicides and repellents in the country has an inbuilt mechanism to evaluate the bio-efficacy and toxicity of insecticides/ repellents to non-target organism including human subjects and allow registration and use of only those insecticides/repellents which fulfill the standards bio-efficacy and safety norms.

Funds for waste management in hospitals

1558. DR.DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have released any funds for the State Government hospitals of Andhra Pradesh for hospital waste management;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last four years, year-wise; and

(c) whether Government propose to cover more hospitals for the purpose in the State in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) No funds have been released to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for Hospital Waste Management during the last 4 years. This Scheme has been discontinued and is no longer in operation.

Affairs of NACO

1559. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no estimates have been prepared or circulated in respect of the expenditure and activities of the National AIDS Control Organisation for the year 2003-04;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the same are likely to be prepared and published?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No, Sir. Planning Commission has provided an approved outlay of Rs. 1270 crores during the Tenth Five Year Plan period for the National AIDS Control Programme. Further, during 2003-04 a provision of Rs. 225 crores has been earmarked for implementation of the Project.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Annual Report of NACO

1560. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National AIDS Control Organisation brings out Annual Report on its activities in the field of AIDS;

(b) if so, whether no such publication has been published for the current year;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken for publication of the report alongwith the likely time to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) A compiled Annual Report on the various activities undertaken by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is published every year. The details of the activities carried out by NACO are also included in the same.

Leprosy patients

†1561. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has highest number of leprosy patients in the World;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been carried out in this regard;

(c) if so, the findings thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.